

ER 60-5392/a

1-10-60
Admiral Lewis L. Strauss
Mercury Building
1925 K Street, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Lewis:

As you requested, I am enclosing a copy of my letter to the Committee of Admissions recommending David Sarnoff for resident membership in the Century Association.

It was indeed a real pleasure for me to write to the Association in his behalf.

With every best wish.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director

Enclosure

O/DCI/[] bak(13 July 60)

Distribution:

Orig. Addressee w/encs.

1 - DCI

1 - AAB

✓ 1 - ER w/basic

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EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE

LEWIS L. STRAUSS

Mercury Building
1925 K Street, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

8 July 1960

Dear Allen:

Our mutual friend, General David Sarnoff, has been proposed by me and seconded by Paul Hoffman for resident membership in The Century Association.

The requirements of the Committee on Admissions call for letters from other members of the Association besides those of the proposer and seconder endorsing the candidate for membership.

I should be grateful, and I know that David would appreciate it, if you will be willing to address a letter to the Committee in his behalf. A copy of my letter of proposal is attached. If you are disposed to write, will you send me a copy of your letter?

Faithfully yours,

Levin

Honorable Allen W. Dulles
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington 25, D. C.

Attachment

Mercury Building
1425 K Street, N. W.
Washington 5, D. C.

21 June 1948

Committee on Admissions
The Century Association
7 West 43rd Street
New York 36, N. Y.

Gentlemen:

This is to propose David Sarnoff as a candidate for resident membership in The Century Association.

Mr. Sarnoff, a renowned engineer and successful executive, was born in Russia in 1891 and was brought to the United States as a child. He was educated in the public schools of New York and at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn. He began his career as a messenger boy with the Commercial Cable Company, and later became a wireless operator on trans-Atlantic ships. (As an item of interest, he manned his key for 24 hours during the TITANIC disaster, being at that time the wireless operator at the Marconi Station in New York.) He advanced through successive positions with the Marconi Company until its absorption by the newly formed Radio Corporation of America in 1919, and he has filled positions of increasing importance while building up that organization, becoming Chairman of its Board of Directors in 1937, which post he holds today.

Devoted to the national defense, Mr. Sarnoff joined the Signal Corps Reserve of the U. S. Army in 1924 and reached the rank of Brigadier General during World War II. The development of radio and television is said to owe more to his imagination and drive than to any individual since Marconi.

His achievements have been recognized by honorary degrees from St. Lawrence University, Marietta College, Oglethorpe University, Boston University, University of Pennsylvania, Fairleigh

Dickinson College, Bronx Institute of Technology, Temple University, University of Notre Dame, Marquette University, and a number of other universities and colleges. He is a trustee of the Thomas Alva Edison Foundation, the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, Pratt Institute, the Council of New York University, and other institutions. He has been decorated by the government of the United States with the Medal of Merit and the Legion of Merit, and has received decorations from many allied governments. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Radio Engineers, the Institute of Electrical Engineers, the Royal Society of Arts (London), and other professional bodies.

I have known General Sarnoff well for thirty-eight years. During that time I have observed him to be devoted to the goal of advancing public information and education and to the improvement of the public taste in the arts, especially in music. He is a man of broad interests, refinement and a warm and generous personality. He is vigorous and eloquent in the advocacy of his convictions, yet interested and tolerant of the views and convictions of other men. He has a wide circle of friends which includes many among the members of the Association and I believe that, if elected, members who do not know him will be pleased to discover his acquaintance.

I respectfully request him to your Convention.

Sincerely yours,

ER 60-53900

11 AUG 1960

Committee on Admissions
The Century Association
7 West 43rd Street
New York 36, N. Y.

Gentlemen:

I have just learned that General David Darnoff has been proposed by Admiral Strauss and seconded by Paul Hall for resident membership in the Century Association.

It gives me great pleasure to recommend General Darnoff for membership in the Association. I have known him well for a number of years and he has all the attributes to make a valuable member. I need not recount his achievements as an executive in radio and television. I have found that he has always shown a keen interest in world affairs and in strengthening our national defense. He is a most congenial person and one who will make an inspiring member of the Association.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director

cc: Adm. Lewis W. Strauss
O/DCI:W Elder/lak (copies prepared mid)
Distribution:

Orig - Addres

1 - Adm. Strauss

1 - DCI via routing

1 - AAB

1 - Elder

✓ 1 - ER 60-53900 - filed w/ letter to Strauss

(EXECUTIVE DISTANCE FILE)